Aren’t 72 hours of supplies enough?

A three day preparation kit is good enough for a power outage or winter storm, but not a large earthquake. Disasters can happen at any time and can have lasting impacts. If it happens soon, it will take up to two weeks for help to reach some areas. Roads will be blocked and bridges will be out of service. We recommend two weeks of supplies on hand so people can be self-sufficient until help can reach them.

Even people outside the earthquake impact zone will be affected by fuel shortages and other issues caused by a Cascadia event. While they may have power and water, supplies of food and other goods could be less reliable than usual. Preparedness is important in all areas of the state!

Credits
- Oregon Office of Emergency Management
- Ashland Fire & Rescue
- Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
- Hood River County
- Coos County Emergency Management

Websites
www.Oregon.gov/OEM
www.Ready.gov
Introduction to “Two Weeks Ready”
Preparation for disasters can be done over time. The traditional three days of supplies is a good start and helpful for short-term power outages or temporary evacuation. But a large earthquake and tsunami will leave much of the region’s transportation routes destroyed. Delivery of assistance and supplies will be difficult or impossible initially. People will have to count on each other in the community, in the workplace and at home in order to be safe until responders can reach them. It is recommended that families, neighborhoods and communities strive to be self-sufficient for two weeks.

Where would your business be without employees?
Businesses have a lot to plan for in order to recover from a natural disaster, such as bringing computer systems back online, repairing buildings, and replacing inventory. Very little can happen until your employees return to work to help with recovery. Research suggests that employees don’t come back to work after a disaster until they are satisfied their loved ones are safe, and have what they need.

A key to business preparedness is employee preparedness
It is good to know how many employees your business has who are:
• Two-weeks Prepared
• Able to get to the job site
• Skilled in critical functions

How can I help employees prepare?
Talk to your employees about the plans your business has to respond during a disaster and how to recover afterwards. Direct them to guides for how to prepare to be self-sufficient for two weeks, such as the Facebook group, 2WeeksReady.

If you have the resources, you can consider assisting employees to get ready. Instead of a holiday bonus, you might consider a gift of food or water for long-term storage. Use a little time at each staff meeting to check in on progress and share tips on becoming more prepared. Consider sponsoring a first aid class.

After a disaster, the more employees your business has who meet those conditions, the more likely it is your business will have the help required to recover. Getting your employees back as soon as possible is very important. Employees whose households are two weeks prepared can get back to work much more quickly than others will.